## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 12338 290959Z ACTION EUR-12

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BENC, UK, US, IT

SUBJ: CHLORINE PLANT FOR ALIAGA COMPLEX

**REF: ROME 12291** 

1. EMBASSY OFFICER ACCOMPANIED BRITISH COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR AND CATALYTIC INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE ON CALL 28 JULY ON RUGGIERO FIRRAO, FOREIGN TRADE MINISTRY'S DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE. (AS EXPECTED, TURKISH FINANCE MINISTRY HAD REJECTED FIRRAO'S FORMULA BY WHICH TURKS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO COMMIT SPECIFIC FUNDS FROM INTERNATIONAL LENDING INSTITUTIONS AS GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT. AT SAME TIME, TURKISH FIANCE MINISTER PROPOSED A DIRECT TURKISH GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE).

2. FIRRAO INSISTED THAT TURKISH COUNTER-OFFER UNACCEPTABLE, SINCE SUCH A GUARANTEE WAS NO DIFFERENT THAN THE NORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY BY A GOVERNMENT FOR A STATE-OWNED ENTITY. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIS MINISTER AND FROM TREASURY MINISTER TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION IN GRANTING ANY NEW CREDIT AUTHORIZATION FOR VENTURES IN TURKEY. FIRRAO'S FORMULA WAS HIS OWN ATTEMPT TO DEVISE THE KIND OF SPECIAL, PRIORITY GUARANTEE WHICH WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 ROME 12338 290959Z

NOT ONLY SATISFY THE MINISTERS BUT STAND UP AGAINST THE INEVITABLE COMPLAINTS OF OTHER ITALIAN COMPANIES WHOSE REQUESTS FOR CREDIT AUTHORIZATION FOR TURKISH DEALS HAD ALSO BEEN REJECTED. HE AGREED HOWEVER THAT THE EFFECT OF HIS FORMULA MIGHT BE TO FREEZE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN SPECIFIC FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT; HE WOULD THEREFORE BE AMENABLE TO A SOFTENING OF THE TEXT WHICH WOULD STILL CONVEY THE SAME GENERAL

IDEA.

3. CATALYTIC REPRESENTATIVE HAD IN FACT PREPARED SUCH A FEVISED WORDING, WHICH FIRRAO IMMEDIATELY ACCEPTED. THE FOLLOWING SENTENCE, UNDER THIS PROPOSAL, WOULD BE APPENDED TO THE GOT GUARANTEE: QUOTE THIS MINISTRY GIVES ITS ASSURANCE THAT IN IMPLEMENTING ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THIS GUARANTEE THE GOVERNMENT OF TURKEY WILL, IF NECESSARY, DRAW UPON CREDITS AVAILABLE TO IT IN FOREIGN CURRENCY FROM INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNQUOTE.

4. FOREGOING PROPOSAL WILL BE PRESENTED TO TURKISH FINANCE MINISTRY 29 JULY. HOLMES

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## Message Attributes

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